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REMARKS

Claims 1-11 remain pending in the present application. In view of the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable.

The Examiner has rejected each of the pending claims 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,470,346 to Morwood (the "Morwood patent") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,385,637 to Peters et al. (the "Peters patent"). (See 12/27/2005 Office Action, p. 2, ¶ 5).

The Morwood patent describes a method for managing and performing computational tasks, wherein the method enables a requesting client to invoke a computation on a remote server. (See Morwood patent, col. 1, ll. 28-30). This remote computation process allows the user to export any computationally intensive applications to a server that is appropriate for the execution of that particular application. (See Id., col. 1, ll. 50-63). The Examiner correctly points out that the Morwood patent does not disclose that the manager task kills the client task when a client process is not completed in a predetermined time period. (See 12/27/2005 Office Action, p. 3, ¶ 6). However, the Examiner attempts to correct this deficiency with the Peters patent.

The Peters patent describes a method for a timer that is incorporated into a multi-tasking operating system of an automatic call distributor system. (See Peters patent, Abstract). The periodic process timer collects files or output and arranges and organizes them to provide an engineer or technician with data representations of execution times for each selected software process. (See Id., col. 4, ll. 32-36). Specifically, the periodic process timer is used to allow selected processes to execute so that information concerning the total accumulated processing time is ascertained. (See Id., col. 6, ll. 7-28). The timer may be used to suspend certain processes so that other processes can execute. (See Id., col. 7, ll. 63-65). However, there is no mention in the Peters patent of killing a task.

Independent claim 1 of the present invention recites "a system for managing a plurality of client processes, comprising a manager task...that kills the client task when a current one of the

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client processes is not completed within a predetermined time period.” The present application is directed toward multitasking to increase effectiveness and efficiency of work that is performed on computing devices. (See Specification, p. 1, ll. 5-7). When the manager task has not received the proper indication within a predetermined period of time, the manager task kills the execution of the client process. (See *Id.*, p. 5, ll. 23-25). On the other hand, the Peters patent is directed towards program timing to calculate the amount of time a process takes to be executed. (See Peters patent, col. 6, ll. 24-28). The Peters patent describes using the timer for task switching. (See *Id.*, col. 7, l. 57 – col. 8, l. 39). However, because the Peters patent is only concerned with process timing, the Peters patent does not teach a timer used as a time window that allows a process to execute and if the process does not execute, that process is killed. Therefore, the Peters patent is not concerned with “a manager task [that] kills the client task when a current one of the client processes is not completed within a predetermined time period,” as recited in claim 1. Applicants have reviewed the entire disclosure of the Peters patent and have not found a single disclosure directed at killing a process or task before it has been completed.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that neither the Morwood patent nor the Peters patent, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest “a system for managing a plurality of client processes, comprising a manager task...that kills the client task when a current one of the client processes is not completed within a predetermined time period,” as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw his rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of independent claim 1. Because claims 2-5 depend from and, therefore, include all the limitations of corresponding claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable over the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 6 and 11 are also allowable for substantially similar reasons stated above for claim 1 including “kill[ing] the client task when a current one of the client processes is not completed within a predetermined time period.” Because claims 7-10 depend from and, therefore, include all the limitations of corresponding claim 6, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable over the cited references.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, and an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

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